

State Historic Preservation

Dan Forrest, *State Historic Preservation Office*
(SHPO)

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State Historic Preservation Officer

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DECD State Historic Preservation Office

- Successor to the former Connecticut Historical Commission.
- Part of DECD since 2011.
- Coordinates with Federal, State, and Local Governments and other parties to assist in the preservation of the State's significant historic assets.

SHPO Review

- SHPO reviews State and Federally funded projects to ensure that potential impacts (effects) to significant historic properties are considered as part of project planning.
- SHPO's role in the DECD-funded Brownfield's program is primarily under the CT Environmental Policy Act.
- "Significant" historic properties are those which are listed in, or eligible for listing in, the State or National Registers of Historic Places

Review Process

- Project proponents complete and submit a Project Notification Form with basic information about the proposed work and any existing buildings which may be altered or demolished.
- *SHPO will respond with our comments within 30 days of receipt.*

Results of Review

- “No Effects” or “No Historic Properties Affected” – there are no concerns for SHPO with the project and no further review or investigations are needed.
- “No Adverse Effects” – There are significant historic resources which will be altered, but not in a manner which diminishes their integrity AS historic properties.

Conditions

- “No Adverse Effects” comments may be accompanied by conditions to minimize or mitigate losses to historic properties.
 - Typical conditions include:
 - Photographic documentation of buildings prior to their alteration.
 - Design changes to retain original historic materials or features (“Historic Fabric”).

Ask Questions/Consult Early

- Most potential problems can be resolved through early coordination.
- Avoid > Minimize > Mitigate
- **Preservation Tax Credits** may provide additional financial offsets for the costs of rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of historic buildings

Environmental Review Coordinators

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